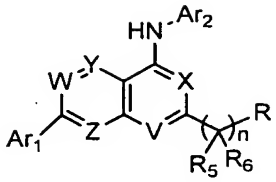
What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof, wherein:

X, V, W, Y and Z are each independently N or CR_1, with the proviso that at least one of V and X is N;

R_1 is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, haloC_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_4alkoxycarbonyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino;

R is -O-R_7 or $-N\begin{matrix}R_4\\R_3\end{matrix}$;

R_7 is:

(i) hydrogen;

(ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_2-C_8alkanoyl, C_3-C_8alkanone, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, C_6-C_{10}arylC_0-C_8alkyl or (5- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b; or

(iii) taken together with an R_5 or R_6 to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_3 and R_4 are:

(i) each independently selected from:

(a) hydrogen;

(b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_3-C_8alkanone, C_2-C_8alkanoyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, C_6-C_{10}arylC_0-C_8alkyl, (5- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl and -(SO_2)C_1-C_8alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b; and

(c) groups that are taken together with an R_5 or R_6 to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b; or

(ii) taken together to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_5 and R_6 are, independently at each occurrence:

(i) each independently hydrogen, C_1-C_8alkyl substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from R_b, or taken together with R_3, R_4 or R_7 to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic group that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

(ii) taken together to form a keto group; or

(iii) taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

Ar_1 and Ar_2 are independently selected from 6- to 10-membered aryl groups and 5- to 10-membered heterocycles, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from groups of the formula LR_a;

L is independently selected at each occurrence from a bond, O, $S(O)_m$, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, O-C(=O)O, $N(R_x)$, C(=O)$N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)$C(=O), $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

R_a is independently selected at each occurrence from: (i) hydrogen, halogen, cyano and nitro; and (ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, (4- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_8alkyl)amino, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, amino, cyano, nitro, oxo, –COOH, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxyC_1-C_4alkyl, and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from:

(i) hydroxy, halogen, amino, aminocarbonyl, cyano, nitro, oxo and –COOH; and

(ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_1-C_8haloalkyl, C_1-C_8alkoxy, C_1-C_8haloalkoxy, C_1-C_8alkanoyl, C_2-C_8alkoxycarbonyl, C_2-C_8alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_8alkylthio, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, phenylC_0-C_8alkyl, phenylC_0-C_8alkoxy, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminoC_0-C_6alkyl, -(SO_2)C_1-C_8alkyl and (4- to 7-membered heterocycle)(C_0-C_8alkyl); each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxyC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, and mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)amino.

2. A compound or form thereof according to claim 1, wherein V and X are N.

3. A compound or form thereof according to claim 1, wherein V is N and X is CH.

4. A compound or form thereof according to claim 1, wherein X is N and V is CH.

5. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein Y is N and W and Z are each CH.

6. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein Z is N and W and Y are each CH.

7. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein W, Y and Z are each CH.

8. A compound or form thereof according to claim 1, wherein Ar_1 and Ar_2 are independently selected from phenyl and 6-membered aromatic heterocycles, each of which is substituted with 0, 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from groups of the formula LR_a.

9. A compound or form thereof according to claim 8, wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl or pyridyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy and haloC_1-C_6alkoxy; and

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, haloC_1-C_6alkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, C_1-C_6alkanoyl, $-(SO_2)R_d$, - $N(R_x)S(O)_mR_d$, and $-N[S(O_m)R_x]S(O)_mR_d$; wherein m is 1 or 2, R_x is hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl, and R_d is C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, amino, mono- or di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino or a 5- to 10-membered, N-linked heterocyclic group, each of which R_d is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy and haloC_1-C_4alkoxy.

10. A compound or form thereof according to claim 9, wherein:

Ar_1 is pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether and groups of the formula $-(SO_2)R_d$, wherein R_d is C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl.

11. A compound or form thereof according to claim 9, wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether and groups of the formula $-(SO_2)R_d$, wherein R_d is C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl.

12. A compound or form thereof according to claim 9, wherein:

Ar_1 is pyridin-2-yl, 3-methyl-pyridin-2-yl, 3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl or 3-halo-pyridin-2-yl; and

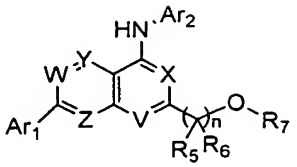
Ar_2 is phenyl, pyridin-2-yl or pyridin-3-yl, each of which is substituted at the *para*-position with halogen, cyano, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, *t*-butyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methyl-ethyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl, propanesulfonyl, propane-2-sulfonyl, trifluoromethanesulfonyl or 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl.

13. A compound or form thereof according to claim 9, wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl, 2-methyl-phenyl, 2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl or 2-halo-phenyl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl, pyridin-2-yl or pyridin-3-yl, each of which is substituted at the *para*-position with halogen, cyano, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, *t*-butyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methyl-ethyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl, propanesulfonyl, propane-2-sulfonyl, trifluoromethanesulfonyl or 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl.

14. A compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof, wherein:

V, X, W, Y and Z are each independently N or CR_1, with the proviso that at least one of V and X is N;

R_1 is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, haloC_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_4alkoxycarbonyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino;

R_7 is:

(i) hydrogen;

(ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_2-C_8alkanoyl, C_3-C_8alkanone, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, C_6-C_{10}arylC_0-C_8alkyl or (5- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b; or

(iii) taken together with an R_5 or R_6 to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_5 and R_6 are, independently at each occurrence:

(i) each independently hydrogen, C_1-C_8alkyl substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from R_b, or taken together with R_7 to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic group that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

(ii) taken together to form a keto group; or

(iii) taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

Ar_1 and Ar_2 are independently selected from 6- to 10-membered aryl groups and 5- to 10-membered heterocycles, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from groups of the formula LR_a;

L is independently selected at each occurrence from a bond, O, $S(O)_m$, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, O-C(=O)O, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

R_a is independently selected at each occurrence from: (i) hydrogen, halogen, cyano and nitro; and (ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, (4- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_8alkyl)amino, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, amino, cyano, nitro, oxo, –COOH, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxyC_1-C_4alkyl, and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from:

(i) hydroxy, halogen, amino, aminocarbonyl, cyano, nitro, oxo and –COOH; and

(ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_1-C_8haloalkyl, C_1-C_8alkoxy, C_1-C_8haloalkoxy, C_1-C_8alkanoyl, C_2-C_8alkoxycarbonyl, C_2-C_8alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_8alkylthio, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, phenylC_0-C_8alkyl, phenylC_0-C_8alkoxy, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminoC_0-C_6alkyl, -(SO_2)C_1-C_8alkyl and (4- to 7-membered heterocycle)(C_0-C_8alkyl); each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxyC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, and mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)amino.

15. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14, wherein V and X are N.

16. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14, wherein V is N and X is CH.

17. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14, wherein X is N and V is CH.

18. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 14-17, wherein Y is N and W and Z are each CH.

19. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 14-17, wherein Z is N and W and Y are each CH.

20. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 14-17, wherein W, Y and Z are each CH.

21. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14, wherein Ar_1 and Ar_2 are independently selected from phenyl and 6-membered aromatic heterocycles, each of which is substituted with 0, 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from groups of the formula LR_a.

22. A compound or form thereof according to claim 21, wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl or pyridyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy and haloC_1-C_6alkoxy; and

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, haloC_1-C_6alkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, C_1-C_6alkanoyl, $-(SO_2)R_d$, $N(R_x)S(O)_mR_d$, and $-N[S(O_m)R_x]S(O)_mR_d$; wherein m is 1 or 2, R_x is hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl, and R_d is C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, amino, mono- or di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino or a 5- to 10-membered, N-linked heterocyclic group, each of which R_d is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy and haloC_1-C_4alkoxy.

23. A compound or form thereof according to claim 22, wherein:

Ar_1 is pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether and groups of the formula $-(SO_2)R_d$, wherein R_d is C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl.

24. A compound or form thereof according to claim 22, wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether and groups of the formula $-(SO_2)R_d$, wherein R_d is C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl.

25. A compound or form thereof according to claim 22, wherein:

Ar_1 is pyridin-2-yl, 3-methyl-pyridin-2-yl, 3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl or 3-halo-pyridin-2-yl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl, pyridin-2-yl or pyridin-3-yl, each of which is substituted at the *para*-position with halogen, cyano, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, *t*-butyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methyl-ethyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl,

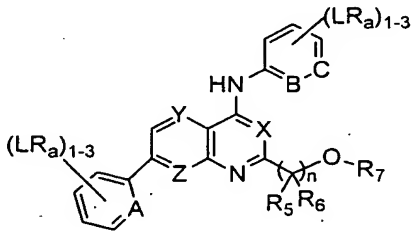
propanesulfonyl, propane-2-sulfonyl, trifluoromethanesulfonyl or 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl.

26. A compound or form thereof according to claim 22, wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl, 3-methyl-phenyl, 3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl or 3-halo-phenyl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl, pyridin-2-yl or pyridin-3-yl, each of which is substituted at the *para*-position with halogen, cyano, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, *t*-butyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methyl-ethyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl, propanesulfonyl, propane-2-sulfonyl, trifluoromethanesulfonyl or 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl.

27. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14, having the formula:



wherein A, B, C, X, Y and Z are each independently CH or N; and wherein each "$(LR_a)_{1-3}$" represents from 1 to 3 substituents independently chosen from groups of the formula LR_a.

28. A compound or form thereof according to claim 27, wherein X is CH.

29. A compound or form thereof according to claim 27, wherein X is N.

30. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14 or claim 27, wherein R_7 is:

(i) hydrogen; or

(ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_2-C_8alkanoyl, C_3-C_8alkanone, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, C_6-C_{10}arylC_0-C_8alkyl or (5- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b.

31. A compound or form thereof according to claim 30, wherein R_7 is:

(i) hydrogen; or

(ii) C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, C_2-C_6alkanoyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, mono- or di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminoC_1-C_6alkyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, (5- to 6-membered heteroaryl)C_0-C_4alkyl or (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is

substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, C_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy and haloC_1-C_4alkoxy.

32. A compound or form thereof according to claim 30, wherein R_7 is C_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_4alkyl ether, mono- or di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_1-C_6alkyl, a 6-membered heterocycle or benzyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen and C_1-C_4alkyl.

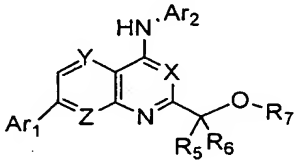
33. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14 or claim 27, wherein each R_5 and R_6 is independently selected from hydrogen and C_1-C_4alkyl.

34. A compound or form thereof according to claim 33, wherein each R_5 and R_6 is hydrogen.

35. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14 or claim 27, wherein one R_5 and one R_6 attached to the same carbon atom are taken together to form a keto group.

36. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14 or claim 27, wherein n is 1.

37. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14, having the formula:



wherein:

X, Y and Z are independently CH or N;

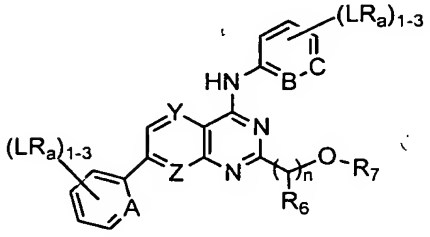
Ar_1 is phenyl or pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl;

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with C_1-C_4alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether or a group of the formula -(SO_2)R_d, wherein R_d is C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl;

R_5 and R_6 are independently selected from hydrogen and C_1-C_4alkyl; and

R_7 is (a) hydrogen; or (b) C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl or phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with 0, 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl.

38. A compound or form thereof according to claim 27, having the formula:



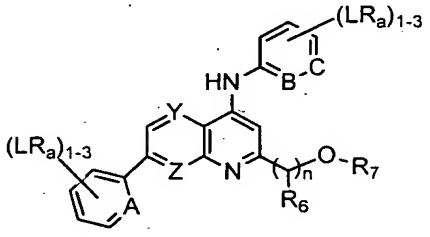
wherein:

A, B, C, Y and Z are each independently CH or N;

R_7 is (a) hydrogen; or (b) C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl or phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with 0, 1 or 2 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

each R_6 is independently hydrogen or methyl.

39. A compound or form thereof according to claim 27, having the formula:



wherein:

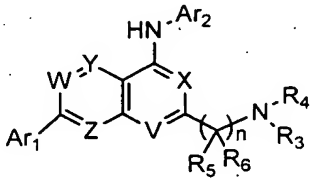
A, B, C, Y and Z are each independently CH or N;

R_7 is (a) hydrogen; or (b) C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl or phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with 0, 1 or 2 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

each R_6 is independently hydrogen or methyl.

40. A compound or form thereof according to claim 14, wherein the compound is selected from compounds listed in Table II.

41. A compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof, wherein:

V, X, W, Y and Z are each independently N or CR_1, with the proviso that at least one of V and X is N;

R_1 is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, haloC_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_4alkoxycarbonyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino;

R_3 and R_4 are:

(i) each independently selected from:

(a) hydrogen;

(b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_3-C_8alkanone, C_2-C_8alkanoyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, (C_6-C_{10}aryl)C_0-C_8alkyl, (5- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl and -(SO_2)C_1-C_8alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b; and

(c) groups that are taken together with an R_5 or R_6 to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b; or

(ii) taken together to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_5 and R_6 are, independently at each occurrence:

(i) each independently hydrogen, C_1-C_8alkyl substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from R_b, or taken together with R_3 or R_4 to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic group that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

(ii) taken together to form a keto group; or

(iii) taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

Ar_1 and Ar_2 are independently selected from 6- to 10-membered aryl groups and 5- to 10-membered heterocycles, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from groups of the formula LR_a;

L is independently selected at each occurrence from a bond, O, $S(O)_m$, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, O-C(=O)O, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

R_a is independently selected at each occurrence from: (i) hydrogen, halogen, cyano and nitro; and (ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, (4- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_8alkyl)amino, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, amino, cyano, nitro, oxo, –COOH, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxyC_1-C_4alkyl, and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from:

(i) hydroxy, halogen, amino, aminocarbonyl, cyano, nitro, oxo and –COOH; and

(ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_1-C_8haloalkyl, C_1-C_8alkoxy, C_1-C_8haloalkoxy, C_1-C_8alkanoyl, C_2-C_8alkoxycarbonyl, C_2-C_8alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_8alkylthio, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, phenylC_0-C_8alkyl, phenylC_0-C_8alkoxy, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminoC_0-C_6alkyl, -(SO_2)C_1-C_8alkyl and (4- to 7-membered heterocycle)(C_0-C_8alkyl); each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, hydroxyC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, and mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)amino.

42. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41, wherein V and X are N.

43. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41, wherein V is N and X is CH.

44. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41, wherein X is N and V is CH

45. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 41-44, wherein Y is N and W and Z are each CH.

46. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 41-44, wherein Z is N and W and Y are each CH.

47. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 41-44, wherein W, Y and Z are each CH.

48. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41, wherein Ar_1 and Ar_2 are independently selected from phenyl and 6-membered aromatic heterocycles, each of which is substituted with 0, 1 or 2 substituents.

49. A compound or form thereof according to claim 48, wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl or pyridyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy and haloC_1-C_6alkoxy; and

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, haloC_1-C_6alkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, C_1-C_6alkanoyl, $-(SO_2)R_d$, - $N(R_x)S(O)_mR_d$, and $-N[S(O_m)R_x]S(O)_mR_d$; wherein m is 1 or 2, R_x is hydrogen or C_1-C_6alkyl, and R_d is C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, amino, mono- or di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino or a 5- to 10-membered, N-linked heterocyclic group, each of which R_d is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, C_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy and haloC_1-C_4alkoxy.

50. A compound or form thereof according to claim 49, wherein:

Ar_1 is pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_4alkyl haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether and groups of the formula $-(SO_2)R_d$, wherein R_d is C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl.

51. A compound or form thereof according to claim 49, wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_4alkyl haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether and groups of the formula $-(SO_2)R_d$, wherein R_d is C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl.

52. A compound or form thereof according to claim 49, wherein:

Ar_1 is pyridin-2-yl, 3-methyl-pyridin-2-yl, 3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl or 3-halo-pyridin-2-yl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl, pyridin-2-yl or pyridin-3-yl, each of which is substituted at the *para*-position with halogen, cyano, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, *t*-butyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methyl-ethyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl,

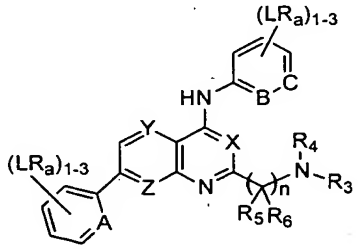
propanesulfonyl, propane-2-sulfonyl, trifluoromethanesulfonyl or 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl.

53. A compound or form thereof according to claim 49, wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl, 2-methyl-phenyl, 2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl or 2-halo-phenyl; and

Ar_2 is phenyl, pyridin-2-yl or pyridin-3-yl, each of which is substituted at the *para*-position with halogen, cyano, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, *t*-butyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methyl-ethyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl, propanesulfonyl, propane-2-sulfonyl, trifluoromethanesulfonyl or 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl.

54. A compound or form thereof according to claim 30, having the formula:



wherein A, B, C, Y and Z are each independently CH or N, and wherein each "$(LR_a)_{1-3}$" represents from 1 to 3 substituents independently chosen from groups of the formula LR_a.

55. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41 or 54, wherein R_3 and R_4 are independently selected from (i) hydrogen and (ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_3-C_8alkanone, C_1-C_8alkanoyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, (C_6-C_{10}aryl)C_0-C_8alkyl, (5- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl and -(SO_2)C_1-C_8alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b.

56. A compound or form thereof according to claim 55, wherein R_3 and R_4 are independently selected from (i) hydrogen and (ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, indanylC_0-C_4alkyl, (5- to 6-membered heteroaryl)C_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy and haloC_1-C_6alkoxy.

57. A compound or form thereof according to claim 56, wherein R_3 and R_4 are independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, (5- to 7-membered

heterocycle)C_0-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, indanyl, benzyl, 1-phenyl-ethyl, 1-phenyl-propyl and 2-phenyl-ethyl, each of which substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen and C_1-C_4alkyl, with the proviso that at least one of R_3 and R_4 is not hydrogen.

58. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41 or claim 54, wherein one of R_3 or R_4 is taken together with an R_5 or R_6 to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic group that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, haloC_1-C_4alkoxy, C_1-C_4alkanoyl, C_1-C_4alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl and (4- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl.

59. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41 or claim 54, wherein R_3 and R_4 are taken together to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_4alkyl, hydroxyC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, haloC_1-C_4alkoxy, C_1-C_4alkanoyl, C_2-C_4alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl and (4- to 7-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl.

60. A compound or form thereof according to claim 59, wherein the 4- to 10-membered heterocycle is morpholinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, pyrrolidinyl or thiomorpholinyl.

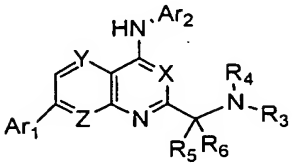
61. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41 or claim 54, wherein each R_5 and R_6 is independently selected from hydrogen and C_1-C_4alkyl.

62. A compound or form thereof according to claim 61, wherein each R_5 and R_6 is hydrogen.

63. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41 or claim 54, wherein one R_5 and one R_6 attached to the same carbon atom are taken together to form a keto group.

64. A compound or form thereof according to claim 41 or claim 54, wherein n is 1.

65. A compound or form thereof according to claim 30, having the formula:



wherein:

Ar_1 is phenyl or pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl;

Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with C_1-C_4alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether or a group of the formula $-(SO_2)R_d$, wherein R_d is C_1-C_4alkyl or haloC_1-C_4alkyl;

R_3 and R_4 are:

(a) independently selected from:

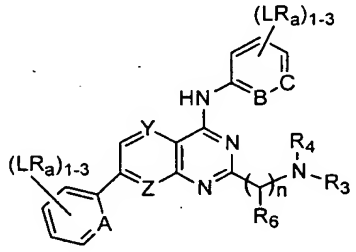
(i) hydrogen; and

(ii) C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, (5- to 7-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, indanyl, benzyl, 1-phenyl-ethyl, 1-phenyl-propyl and 2-phenyl-ethyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl; or

(b) taken together to form a 5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

R_5 and R_6 are independently selected from hydrogen and C_1-C_4alkyl.

66. A compound or form thereof according to claim 54, having the formula:



wherein:

A, B, C, Y and Z are each independently CH or N;

R_3 and R_4 are:

(a) independently selected from:

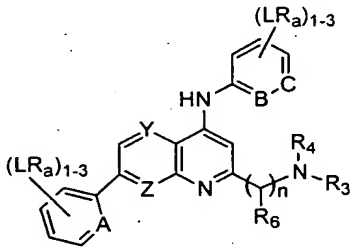
(i) hydrogen; and

(ii) C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, (5- to 7-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, indanyl, benzyl, 1-phenyl-ethyl, 1-phenyl-propyl and 2-phenyl-ethyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl; or

(b) taken together to form a 5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

each R_6 is independently hydrogen or methyl.

67. A compound or form thereof according to claim 54, having the formula:



wherein:

A, B, C, Y and Z are each independently CH or N;

R_3 and R_4 are:

(a) independently selected from:

(i) hydrogen; and

(ii) C_1-C_6alkyl, C_2-C_6alkenyl, (5- to 7-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, indanyl, benzyl, 1-phenyl-ethyl, 1-phenyl-propyl and 2-phenyl-ethyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl; or

(b) taken together to form a 5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and

each R_6 is independently hydrogen or methyl.

68: A compound or form thereof according to claim 30, wherein the compound is selected from compounds listed in Table III.

69. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, wherein the compound has an IC_{50} value of 100 nanomolar or less in a capsaicin receptor calcium mobilization assay.

70. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, wherein the compound has an IC_{50} value of 10 nanomolar or less in a capsaicin receptor calcium mobilization assay.

71. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising at least one compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, in combination with a physiologically acceptable carrier or excipient.

72. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 71 wherein the composition is formulated as an injectible fluid, an aerosol, a cream, a gel, a pill, a capsule, a syrup or a transdermal patch.

73. A method for reducing calcium conductance of a cellular capsaicin receptor, comprising contacting a cell expressing a capsaicin receptor with at least one compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, and thereby reducing calcium conductance of the capsaicin receptor.

74. A method according to claim 73, wherein the cell is a neuronal cell that is contacted *in vivo* in an animal.

75. A method according to claim 74, wherein during contact the compound is present within a body fluid of the animal.

76. A method according to claim 74, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the animal at a concentration of 1 micromolar or less.

77. A method according to claim 76, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the animal at a concentration of 500 micromolar or less.

78. A method according to claim 77, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the animal at a concentration of 100 micromolar or less.

79. A method according to claim 74, wherein the animal is a human.

80. A method according to claim 74, wherein the compound is administered orally.

81. A method for inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to a capsaicin receptor *in vitro*, the method comprising contacting capsaicin receptor with at least one compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, under conditions and in an amount sufficient to detectably inhibit vanilloid ligand binding to capsaicin receptor.

82. A method for inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to capsaicin receptor in a patient, comprising contacting cells expressing capsaicin receptor with at least one compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, in an amount sufficient to detectably inhibit vanilloid ligand binding to cells expressing a cloned capsaicin receptor *in vitro*, and thereby inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to the capsaicin receptor in the patient.

83. A method according to claim 82, wherein the patient is a human.

84. A method according to claim 82, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 1 micromolar or less.

85. A method for treating a condition responsive to capsaicin receptor modulation in a patient, comprising administering to the patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of at least one compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, and thereby alleviating the condition in the patient.

86. A method according to claim 85, wherein the patient is suffering from (i) exposure to capsaicin, (ii) burn or irritation due to exposure to heat, (iii) burns or irritation due to exposure to light, (iv) burn, bronchoconstriction or irritation due to exposure to tear gas, air pollutants or pepper spray, or (v) burn or irritation due to exposure to acid.

87. A method according to claim 85, wherein the condition is asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

88. A method for treating pain in a patient, comprising administering to a patient suffering from pain a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of at least one compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, and thereby alleviating pain in the patient.

89. A method according to claim 88, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 1 micromolar or less.

90. A method according to claim 89, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 500 nanomolar or less.

91. A method according to claim 89, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 100 nanomolar or less.

92. A method according to claim 88, wherein the patient is suffering from neuropathic pain.

93. A method according to claim 88, wherein the pain is associated with a condition selected from: postmastectomy pain syndrome, stump pain, phantom limb pain, oral neuropathic pain, toothache, postherpetic neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, reflex sympathetic dystrophy, trigeminal neuralgia, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, meralgia paresthetica, burning-mouth syndrome, bilateral peripheral neuropathy, causalgia, neuritis, neuronitis, neuralgia, AIDS-related neuropathy, MS-related neuropathy, spinal cord injury-related pain, surgery-related pain, musculoskeletal pain, back pain, headache, migraine, angina, labor, hemorrhoids, dyspepsia, Charcot's pains, intestinal gas, menstruation, cancer, venom exposure, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease and trauma.

94. A method according to claim 88, wherein the patient is a human.

95. A method for treating itch in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of a compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, and thereby alleviating itch in the patient.

96. A method for treating cough or hiccup in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of a compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, and thereby alleviating cough or hiccup in the patient.

97. A method for treating urinary incontinence in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of a compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, and thereby alleviating urinary incontinence in the patient.

98. A method promoting weight loss in an obese patient, comprising administering to a patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of a compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, and thereby promoting weight loss in the patient.

99. A compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, wherein the compound or form thereof is radiolabeled.

100. A method for determining the presence or absence of capsaicin receptor in a sample, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a sample with a compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1, 14 or 41, under conditions that permit binding of the compound to capsaicin receptor; and

(b) detecting a level of the compound bound to capsaicin receptor, and therefrom determining the presence or absence of capsaicin receptor in the sample.

101. A method according to claim 100, wherein the compound is a radiolabeled compound according to claim 99, and wherein the step of detection comprises the steps of:

(i) separating unbound compound from bound compound; and

(ii) detecting the presence or absence of bound compound in the sample.

102. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 71 in a container; and

(b) instructions for using the composition to treat pain.

103. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 71 in a container; and

(b) instructions for using the composition to treat cough or hiccup.

104. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 71 in a container; and

(b) instructions for using the composition to treat obesity.

105. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 71 in a container; and

(b) instructions for using the composition to treat urinary incontinence.

106. Use of a compound according to claim 1 as a medicament for the treatment of a patient suffering from a condition responsive to capsaicin receptor modulation.

107. Use of a compound according to claim 1 as a medicament for the treatment of a patient suffering from a condition responsive to capsaicin receptor modulation selected from (i) exposure to capsaicin, (ii) burn or irritation due to exposure to heat, (iii) burns or irritation due to exposure to light, (iv) burn, bronchoconstriction or irritation due to exposure to tear gas, air pollutants or pepper spray, or (v) burn or irritation due to exposure to acid.

108. Use of a compound according to claim 1 as a medicament for the treatment of a patient suffering from to pain.

108. Use of a compound according to claim 1 as a medicament for the treatment of a patient suffering from neuropathic pain associated with a condition selected from: postmastectomy pain syndrome, stump pain, phantom limb pain, oral neuropathic pain, toothache, postherpetic neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, reflex sympathetic dystrophy, trigeminal neuralgia, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, meralgia paresthetica, burning-mouth syndrome, bilateral peripheral neuropathy, causalgia, neuritis, neuronitis, neuralgia, AIDS-related neuropathy, MS-related neuropathy, spinal cord injury-related pain, surgery-related pain, musculoskeletal pain, back pain, headache, migraine, angina, labor, hemorrhoids, dyspepsia, Charcot's pains, intestinal gas, menstruation, cancer, venom exposure, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease and trauma.